



Posting Date: October 9, 2015

DIVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES REGULATION
BOARD OF NURSING REGISTRATION AND NURSING EDUCATION
3 Capitol Hill, Conference Room 401, Providence, RI 02908

July 13, 2015@ 8:49 a.m.
OPEN SESSION MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Linda Twardowski, President
Diane Blier
Elizabeth Bloom
Kathleen Heren
Maria Ducharme
Maria Pezzillo
Kristen Young
Delores Walters

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Jessica Brier
Joanne Matthew
Anne Tierney

STAFF MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jane Morgan, Chief Legal Counsel
Kimberly McNulty, Chief Implementation Aide

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Donna Policastro, RISNA
Debra A. Grosskurth, Salve Regina University
Darlene Noret, NEIT
Mary Barlas, LTI
Eleanor Clapprood, NPARI
Pat Burbank, URI
Rosemary Costigan, CCRI
Linda McDonald, UNAP

1. **Establishment of a quorum**

A meeting of the Board of Nurse Registration and Nursing Education was held on Monday, July 13, 2015 at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. A quorum was established and the Open Session meeting was called to order at 8:49 am on a motion by Elizabeth Bloom and seconded by Kristen Young. Motion carried.

2. Presentation of the June 8, 2015 Open Session Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Elizabeth Bloom and seconded by Kristen Young to accept the minutes. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Open Session minutes as presented. Motion carried.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

a. Executive Director Vacancy Update:

The Board was advised that a candidate has been selected and is awaiting final approval. The new Director will attend the September monthly meeting

b. Nurse Compact Legislation status:

The Bill was not voted on instead a 16 member commission has been developed to study and review Rhode Island's ongoing participation in the Nurse Licensure Compact and to provide recommendations for possible alternatives to staffing of Nurses in Rhode Island's Hospitals (2015 – H 6364). The Commission will be formed in the Fall 2015.

c. Query from School Nurse Teachers regarding LPNs working in schools:

Donna Lennon, President RICSNTA, is asking three questions of the Board:

- 1. In the school setting, an LPN is working under whose license the agency or the CSNT in the building?*
- 2. Can an LPN assess the need for and administer Diastat, oxygen?*
- 3. If a medically fragile student needs assessment for treatments on a bus ie: suction, diastat admin or O2 can an LPN be responsible? Again under whose license?*

Legal Counsel for the Board will review the statute and provide a legal opinion. All agreed that each school's contract with the agency should contain a clause related to these questions.

d. Corrective action reports from Schools of Nursing:

- i. Salve Regina: Eileen Gray provided the Board with a "NCLEX Corrective Action Plan"*
- ii. URI: Mary Sullivan provided the Board with a "Plan of Correction for Improving NCLEX Pass Rate".*

e. ACEN status:

ACEN status to accredit schools of nursing is in jeopardy. They are in difficult negotiations with NLN to reconfigure their by-laws to enable them to continue accrediting AD and 3 years programs. The Board will continue to follow their status

f. NCSBN updates:

CE Dr. David Benton will begin on September 30th

g. Newport Hospital:

Newport Hospital submitted a letter to the Board stating that Denise Sullivan will move into a new role as the hospital's director of women's health services effective June 23, 2015. Cathy Duquette will become the interim CNO effective June 23rd.

- h. Statutory/license issues:
Two new bills (S319 and H6364) are in the legislature related to Midwifery and the ability to prescribe. The Board will monitor the progress of these Bills.
 - i. Open Board seats:
The Board members previously agreed to assist with the recruitment of qualified individuals to fill vacant and term limited seats on the Board. All interested parties with the proper credentials should submit a letter of interest to the Department of Health. The Board and RISNA has asked the Department to be included in the selection process before each candidate is forwarded to the Governor's Office for consideration.
 - j. Board Officers/Upcoming meeting schedule:
Motion was made by Lynn Blanchette and seconded by Kathleen Heren to move the Board Officer elections to its October meeting. The Board voted unanimously to hold the elections during the October. Motion carried.
 - k. NCSBN annual meeting August 19-21 Chicago:
President Twardowski and Jessica Brier will attend the NCSBN annual meeting.
 - l. NCLEX conference September 21, Portland, Oregon:
President Twardowski will attend and speak about Rhode Island's issues.
 - m. Distribution of the Journal of Nursing Regulation (Volume 6, Issue 2 – July2015)
Each member received a copy.
- 4. Reports from the work groups of the Board of Nursing:
 - a. Task Force on Education, Lead: Maria Pezzillo
 - b. Task Force for Website improvement: Lead: Jessica Brier
Nothing to report at this time. Continued work and research in both areas.
 - 5. New Business:
 - a. Questions regarding availability of “refresher course for returning RN/LPNs”
The Board discussed mandating specific CEU/refresher courses for nurses returning to practice after being inactive for various reasons. It was decided to create a Taskforce to review programs available that the Board would then suggest be taken. President Twardowski and legal counsel will create a disclaimer for the Board's website stating that it is not endorsing said suggested programs.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Donna Policastro, RISNA, advised the Board of the following:

- *RISNA Board seats are available.*
- *URI is sponsoring a three day program geared toward High School students 15-17 years of age exposing them to field of nursing.*

6. Motion to adjourn to Closed Session

Motion was made by Diane Blier and seconded by Kathleen Heren to adjourn to Closed Session at 10:37 am. Motion carried. President Twardowski read the following:

Pursuant to Sections § 42-46-4 and § 42-46-5(a)(1) of the Rhode Island General Laws, for the purpose of discussing job performance, character, physical or mental health of applicants for licensure. Said individuals have been notified in advance by writing that they may request that the discussion be held at an open meeting.

Pursuant to Section § 42-46-4 and 42-46-5(a)(2) for the purpose of discussing pending litigation with counsel from the Office of the Attorney General in the matter of Linda Tetu Mouradjian vs. the Department of Health and the Board of Nursing.

7. Return to Open Session Return to Open Session

Motion was made by Maria Pezzillo and seconded by Kathy Heren to re-open the Open Session and to seal the Minutes of the Closed Session pursuant to Sections 42-46-4, 42-46-5 and 42-46-7 of the Rhode Island General Laws. Motion carried.

8. Final Actions on all votes taken in Closed Session

The Board will delay voting on actions taken during its closed session until its September 14, 2015, due to the loss of a quorum.

9. Adjournment

The next Board of Nursing Registration and Nursing Education meeting will be held Monday, September 14, 2015 at 8:45 AM at the Rhode Island Department of Health, Conference Room 401, 3 Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908. Motion was made by Diane Blier and seconded by Kathleen Heren to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly McNulty
Chief Implementation Aide
Office of Health Professionals Regulation